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and, on the whole, as Mr. Pease reports, "the material as it now stands appears to be trustworthy and accurate." He concludes that the European practice has been of very little service in determining "the conditions or problems of the local records of a middle-western state" and believes "that proper scientific principles must be evolved from an intensive study of the local situation."

The counties are reported in alphabetical order with the exception of Cook county, which, on account of its size, is given first place. The arrangement under each county is by its record offices, namely, county clerk, probate clerk, circuit clerk, and recorder, showing, seriatim, the classes of records in each office. At the head of each county there is given a brief history of its erection and other useful information; similarly, information with respect to the duties, etc., of each officer or office is set forth.

Of very great value to the student of county government in the United States is the general introduction on the "History of county archives in Illinois," which occupies about 135 pages. Here the ramifications of county business are set forth and the operation of county law is seen. Suggestions are also made for certain improvements in the methods of recording and for better physical surroundings and equipment. The legality of loose-leaf records is considered. The problems of concentration and of destroying or discarding certain records are dealt with in particular cases. The historian and the archivist are indebted to Mr. Pease for this introduction, which is not an inconsiderable contribution to the interests of both. Nine pages of bibliography and about ten pages of index top off this useful volume, particularly useful for Illinois, and worthy of emulation by other states.

VICTOR HUGO PALTSITS

The Illinois whigs before 1846. By Charles Manfred Thompson, Ph.D., associate in economics, University of Illinois. [University of Illinois studies in the social sciences, vol. iv, no. 1.] (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1915. 165 p. \$.95)

This monograph is the first of a series which the author expects to publish on the history of the Illinois whigs. The text proper embraces 123 pages and is divided into five chapters as follows: Genesis of the Illinois whigs, 1809-1834; The emergence of the whig party, 1834-1839; Harrison and Tyler, 1839-1841; Sectionalism and state issues, 1841-1845; The Illinois whigs and national politics, 1841-1845. Each chapter except the last is concluded by a helpful summary. A table of contents precedes chapter I and chapter V is followed by an appendix which lists the members of the Illinois legislature from 1834 to 1846 and shows their political

affiliations as far as ascertainable. A very satisfactory, classified bibliography with comments, followed by an index, concludes the work.

The party alignments in Illinois in the twenties are shown to have been somewhat confused. The pioneers were finding themselves politically. The slavery controversy which culminated in 1824 and the presidential campaign of that year illustrate this. After 1824 there were three distinct elements, those opposing Jackson, those supporting him to a limited extent, and those who favored him absolutely. Those opposed to Jackson gained in numbers from the new settlers in the northern counties and became the national republicans of 1832 and later the whigs. This element was developed by opposition to Van Buren beginning in 1831. The second element later joined either the first or the third and thus reduced the three elements to two.

It is shown that during the period of the emergence of the whig party, 1834-1839, the politics of Illinois continued to be considerably confused on account of the attempt to establish a system of state banking and of internal improvements, the lack of definite policies on which the party could unite, dissensions among the democrats, and the doubt as to the party affiliation of political leaders. "Men of all shades of political belief" supported Duncan for the governorship in 1834. In national matters the chief bond of union of the Illinois whigs in these years was opposition to Van Buren, who was never popular in the west and was a burden for the democrats to carry. Throughout this whole period, indeed, party alignments are shown to have centered about personal leaders rather than political principles.

In the campaign of 1840 the whigs made their supreme effort and attained their meridian height in Illinois, only to be outdone as usual by the democrats. In the preceding presidential campaign the democrats had been well organized and had held their regular state convention. The whigs held their first state convention in Illinois in 1839 and showed great strength in the northern part of the state, which had been settled during the thirties chiefly by emigrants from New York and New England. Bearing from the democrats such epithets as "bankites, wigs, wiggies, wiggles, Federalists, blue lights, and Abolitionists," the whigs embraced "every element opposed to Van Buren and his administration." The author suggests that the whigs might have succeeded in this campaign in the state, had they not insisted that A. P. Field, the whig secretary of state, could not be dismissed by Carlin, the democratic governor, and also had there not been a general feeling that they were opposed to the foreign vote. Other factors of course were the popularity of Harrison, the unpopularity of Van Buren, the well developed democratic machine, and perhaps the effects of the panic of 1837.

As to sectionalism, Illinois presents an interesting study. Its great extent north and south combined with the different origins and tendencies of its settlers in the northern and southern parts of the state, makes it a United State in miniature. The author brings out these conditions, and also the fact that during the early forties, the chief issues of state politics were questions on which sectional and not party lines were drawn. Thus the fourth chapter is concerned with matters which are economic and sectional rather than purely political, such as state banks, internal improvements, and the resulting state debt.

In the closing chapter the Illinois whigs are considered in relation to national politics from 1841 to 1845. Having lost Harrison they were glad to support the candidacy of Clay in 1844. Even more than in 1840 they were now ready to champion a definite political platform. The "articles of faith" of the party were embodied in an "address" which was issued by the whig committee, composed of Lincoln and others. They stood for a protective tariff, a United States bank, a sound currency and distribution of the proceeds of the sale of public lands. Great enthusiasm was shown, but in the August election the party succeeded in winning only one of the seven congressional districts, the seventh, in the north central part of the state; in the ensuing presidential election, the party was decisively beaten. The whig counties were well scattered over the central and northern parts of the state, leaving a solid southern portion to the democrats.

The work as a whole has been done with care and thoroughness and is a valuable contribution to this field of study. As stated in the preface, the slavery issue of the thirties and forties is reserved for special subsequent treatment. The chapter on sectionalism and state issues digresses somewhat from purely political considerations, but is none the less informing. To the reviewer the material on the campaign of 1840 is the most interesting part of the study, because of the subject matter itself. The succeeding portion of the work will be awaited with interest.

HOMER J. WEBSTER

Applied history. Edited by Benjamin F. Shambaugh. [Iowa applied history series, edited by Benjamin F. Shambaugh.] (Iowa City: State historical society of Iowa, 1914. 689 p. \$3.00)

This work is a rather unusual collaboration of the editor of the publications of a state historical society and a group of students interested in certain large political and sociological problems. In this case, the editor is also head of the political science department of his state university and brings to his task, therefore, special training in the whole field of social science. The first publications along the line of the present volume were published in 1912 under such titles as "Road legislation in Iowa,"